WASTE DISPOSAL SITE SURVEY

REPORT

together with

ADDITIONAL AND SEPARATE VIEWS

BY THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NINETY-SIXTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION



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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

October 15, 1979

Washington, D.C. Committee on Interstate and Foreign Honorable Harley O. Staggers 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

committee's year-long investigation of disposal problems, the results of which are contained in the Subcommittee's recently re-Investigations sets forth the results, findings, conclusions and recommendations relating to the Subcommittee's survey of process waste disposal practices of the 53 largest domestic chemical comleased report entitled, "Hazardous Waste Disposal". The attached report of the Subcommittee on Oversight and This survey was conducted in conjunction with the Sub-

chemical manufacturers were selected for the survey, not to single that industry out, but rather, because the chemical industry as a whole produces some of the most toxic wastes, even though by volume it is not the single largest generator of hazardous wastes each year. During the course of the Subcommittee's investigation, it became clear that millions of tons of toxic wastes are disposed in an environmentally unsound manner, resulting in "ticking time bombs" which pose hazards to public health and the environment. Facing a paucity of information on the location and content of sites containing hazardous wastes, the Subcommittee conducted its own limited survey—the first national study of waste disposal sites—to begin to determine in a systematic manner, the number, nature and location of all waste disposal sites across the country. The largest

The survey reveals that since 1950 the 53 companies, operating 34 percent of the sites were owned by the companies, 94 percent of the served in on-site facilities. During this thirty process wastes were dumped in on-site facilities. During this thirty process wastes of which 100 million tons went to sites which are now does not reveal what percentage of these wastes is hazardous.

WASTE DISPOSAL SITE SURVEY

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This Waste Disposal Site Survey is being committee on Oversight and Investigations of the Committee on Interstate and Foreigh Commerce, U. S. House of Representatives. Interstate and Foreigh Commerce, U. S. House of Representatives. The purpose of the survey is to begin to identify the location of sites in the United States used for the disposal of chemical of sites in the United States used for the disposal of chemical plant process waste materials since 1950. The fifty largest chemical companies and their subsidiaries or affiliates are chemical companies and their subsidiaries or infermation gathered included in this first national survey. Information gathered will assist the Compress in addressing the problems posed by will assist the Compress in addressing the problems posed by active as well as inactive or abandoned waste disposal sites. The information will also be useful to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in effectively implementing the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY

The survey is based on the experiences of the 50 largest chemical companies in the United States. A complete set of instruments is to be filled out for every facility or plant in the United States owned, operated or leased by one of these companies or any of their subsidiary or affiliated companies.

It is recommended that the corporate headquarters, to whom the survey instruments are sent, send a complete set of instruments and the instruction manual to the plant manager or supervisor of each of the company's plants or facilities. The plant manager or supervisor should then complete the forms using whatever records or employee knowledge he or she may have at his or her disposal. It is further requested that completed forms from each facility be returned to the corporate headquarters for final collation before returning them to the Subcommittee.

TIME PERIOD TO BE COVERED

It is the Subcommittee's intention to collect information on waste disposal sites used since 1950 (or since the time a particular facility began operation if after 1950). Some facilities may not have formal records on waste disposal dating back to 1950. The Subcommittee requests that every effort is made to 1950. The Subcommittee requests that every effort is made to records do not exist. Most important is the identification (by name and location) of all sites used for the disposal of process wastes from a facility since 1950. It is very likely that wastes were disposed of; thus the knowledge employees may have wastes were disposed of; thus the knowledge employees may have of waste disposal practices by the facility should be explored along with record searches.

FORMS

The instrument package consists of 4 separate forms as described below:

FORM A: GENERAL FACILITY INFORMATION: This form elicits information on the total amount of process waste generated by a facility in 1978 and the methods used other than sale for use for the disposal of these wastes. This information will provide a general picture of the facility's current operations. The form also requests information on the number of sites used since 1950 for the disposal of process wastes and the hauling of process wastes from the facility. The answers to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to these questions will indicate whether or not the master to the master than the master to the master than the mast

FORM B: DISPOSAL SITE INFORMATION: This form is to be completed for every disposal site used by the facility since 1950 for the disposal of the facility's process wastes. The property on which the facility is located may also have been used for waste disposal; if so, one Form

"B" should be used for this "on site" disposal. The form elicits information on the name, location and ownership of the site, the dates the site was used by the facility, the amount and content of the process waste disposed at the site from the facility, the current status of the site as well as the types of disposal methods used at the site. In all instances a facility should seek the answers to In all instances as facility should seek the answers to In the state of the site.

FORM C: HAULER INFORMATION: This form asks a facility to list the names and addresses of all firms or independent contractors (including the company and its affiliates and subsidiaries) who since 1950 removed process waste materials from the facility. Information on the years used is also requested.

FORM D: SUPPLEMENTAL HAULER INFORMATION: Some process wastes may have been hauled from a facility and taken to a location unknown to the facility. For every firm or contractor who has taken waste in this manner from a facility, Form D elicits information on the content and amount of wastes hauled and the dates the hauler was used.

COMPLETING THE FORMS

The information requested on the forms is largely numerical in nature. Block spaces have been provided for this information. Respondents are requested to write (or type) responses clearly within these spaces. In any instance in which the response should be right justified. For example, if a facility generated 21,292 tons of process waste during 1978, the response on Form A, Question 3 would be recorded as follows:

In requesting information on amounts of process waste generated, disposed at a given site or hauled by a given firm/contractor, three different categories (gallons, tons and cubic yards) have been provided. One or all of these categories may be used, depending upon which is most convenient for a facility. In no instance, however, should the amount of waste be double counted (i.e. a given amount should not be recorded as both gallons and tons).

All non-numerical responses (eg. names and addresses) should be written Tegibly or typed in the spaces provided. If there is a need to clarify responses to any questions, clarification should be provided on the back of the form or on an appended page.

WHO TO CALL WITH QUESTIONS

The Subcommittee will hold a private briefing for all companies asked to participate in this survey on Friday, April 27, 1979 at 3:00 p.m. in 2123 Rayburn House Office Building in order to answer any questions or concerns. Companies should hold all initial questions for this private briefing. Following this date, all questions should be directed to Anne Cohn, Survey Coordinator at (202) 225-4231 or Mark Raabe, Staff Director, at (202) 225-4441.

active sites, which may or may not be dangerous, we are requesting area. While our primary focus is on identifying abandoned and inin obtaining as complete information as possible in a narrowly defined companies; rather we are soliciting your cooperation and assistance ing the disposal practices of this industry or any of its component veyed companies to better understand and deal with the problem. information about the overall disposal practices of each of the sur-Our objective is not to assess blame or give undue publicity regard

you provide, you may be assured that the Subcommittee and its staff will treat the data with the same high degree of care and control acsurvey and yet minimize the burden on your company and avoid proprietary information as much as possible. With respect to the data corded all investigative materials containing sensitive data. Unauaware that the Subcommittee may always authorize disclosure of inthorized disclosures will not be made. At the same time, you should be valid legislative purposes, and which is relevant to our investigation. formation it deems to be in the public interest, consistent with our The questionnaire has been designed to achieve the objective of the

questions until that time. Office Building. It would be appreciated if you would withhold your tionnaire at a private briefing for the participating companies on Friday, April 27, 1979, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 2123 Rayburn House able to respond to any questions you may have with regard to the ques-The survey forms (Forms A, B, C, and D), together with instructions, are enclosed. In addition, the Subcommittee staff will be avail-

ington representative. Sufficient quantities of the questionnaires for your company will be available following the staff briefing. A copy of this letter, with enclosures, has been sent to your Wash-

Subcommittee office by the close of business, Friday, June 29, 1979. It is requested that the completed questionnaires be returned to the Your cooperation in this effort is greatly appreciated

Sincerely,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations BOB ECKHARDT

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Appendix D

WASTE DISPOSAL SITE SURVEY

INSTRUCTIONS

PURPOSE

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY

TIME PERIOD TO BE COVERED

FORMS: DCBA GENERAL FACILITY INFORMATION
DISPOSAL SITE INFORMATION

HAULER INFORMATION SUPPLEMENTAL HAULER INFORMATION

COMPLETING THE FORM

WHO TO RETURN FORMS TO WHO TO CALL WITH QUESTIONS

WHEN TO RETURN FORMS

Conducted by:

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

U. S. House of Representatives

Hon. Bob Eckhardt, Chairman

April 1979

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(DO NOT USE) (1-5)

WHO TO RETURN FORMS TO

The Subcommittee requests that a company compile completed forms from all of their facilities and forward the entire package, at one time, to:

Hon. Bob Eckhardt, Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations
Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce
2323 Rayburn HOB
U. S. Congress
Washington, D. C. 20515

Attn: Survey Coordinator

WHEN TO RETURN FORMS

All completed forms are to be returned to the Subcommittee no later than June 29,1979.

Company Name: Company Name: Facilit, Name: No. Street City State 21p Code Name of Person Completing Form:		of Per	Address:	Facility Name:	Company Name:	A: GEN
Street	,	City Son Completing	No.	me:	6:	ERAL FACILITY 1
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	2519 8 1 2 2 2 2 1	Zip Code	STATE CONTRA			

incinerated	19	hess: No. Street City State Zip Code me of Person Completing Form:
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INCLIDING THE COMPANY AND ITS AFFILIATES AND SUBSIDIARIES, USED TO REMOVE PROCESS WASTES FROM THIS FACILITY SINCE 1950. Company Name: Facility Name:	ICC #	Name of Firm or Contractor
INCLUDING THE COMPANY AND ITS AFFILIATES AND SUBSIDIARIES, USED TO REMOVE PROCESS WASTES FROM THIS FACILITY SINCE 1950. Company Name:		Facility Name:
INCLUDING THE COMPANY AND ITS AFFILIATES AND SUBSIDIARIES, USED TO REMOVE PROCESS WASTES FROM THIS FACILITY SINCE 1950.		Company Name:
	IS AFFILIATES AND SUBSIDIARIES, USED OM THIS FACILITY SINCE 1950.	INCLUDING THE COMPANY AND IT TO REMOVE PROCESS WASTES FRO

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esters and ethers alcohols. ketones aldehydes dioxins ketones aldehydes dioxins Inorganics salts salts mercaptans Misc pharmaccutical wastes paints & pigments catalysts (eg. vanadium, platinum, palladium) asbestos shock sensitive wastes (eg. nitrated toluenes) ali water reactive wastes (eg. nitrated toluenes) ali water reactive wastes (eg. nitrated toluenes)	irds	Company Name: Facility Name: Name of Hauling Firm/Contractor: Name	MENTAL HAULER INFORMATION FORM FOR EACH FIRM OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR (IN-): (DO NOT USE WASTE FROM THIS FACILITY SINCE 1950 AND TOOK IT LOCATION
12222222222	FEEFEEFEEFEEFEEFEEFEEFEEFEEFEEFEEFEEFEE	(10-11) (12-13)	1. (1-8)
100000000000000000000000000000000000000		5 85	1-8)